

Sudan desert locust update 1-31 August, 2005

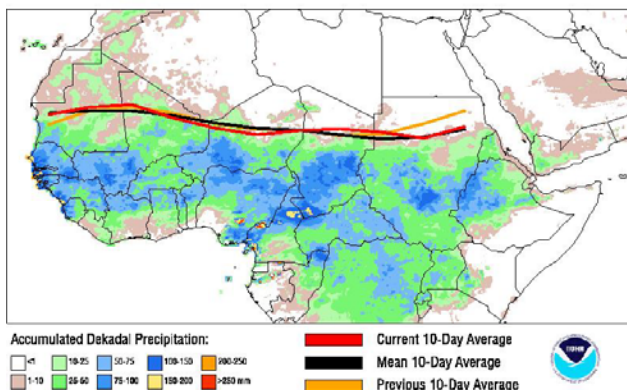
Summary

The desert Locust situation in **Sudan** continued to be of a concern in August. Hopper bands and/or immature adults were detected in several places in West, South and North Darfur. Survey and control operations were carried out in accessible areas of Greater Darfur states and the summer breeding areas.

Meteorological and ecological conditions

The ITCZ over the eastern Sahel remained north of the median position for this time of the year. A slight southward retreat was observed over Abu Hamad, Karima, and Dongola to north Atbara and the Western states, Sudan. Low to medium speed southerly and southeasterly winds bellowing to the east and northeast prevailed during the month. Heavy rains were recorded in **Western** (214.3 mm), **Northern** (487.3 mm) and **Southern Darfur states** and vegetation has been greening and abundant and the soil moist. Moderate to heavy rains were also recorded in Greater Kordofan, River Nile, Kassala states (735.4 mm) and parts of the summer breeding areas (Elgadarif 280.2 mm). Vegetation is mostly green and breeding conditions favorable except for dry places in River Nile and Red Sea coasts.

Current vs Mean Position of the Africa ITCZ
As analyzed by the NOAA Climate Prediction Center
August 2005 Dekad 2



Locust situation

High density first to fifth instar hopper bands were detected in **Western Darfur** during ground survey

and control operations in August. Gregarious groups of low density immature adults were reported in Ash Barra (133759N/231246E) and Magango (12 52 28N/22 48 49E). Areas infested were estimated at 1,524 ha of which 1,384 ha were treated using 2,477 kg of Dursban 5% dust at 2 kg/ ha, 380 Kg Ficam 1 % (2 kg/ ha).

First to fifth instar hoppers were also detected on 5,507 ha in **Northern Darfur** of which 3,277 ha were treated with 1,110 kg of Dursban 5%, 425 L of Dursban ULV 45 %, 245 L of Malathion 96% ULV, 544 L of Adonis ULV 12.5, 60 L of Diazinon 80% (0.5 L/ha) and 138 L of Malathion 57% EC. Mature low density gregarious groups were also detected in 295 ha in 5 locations.

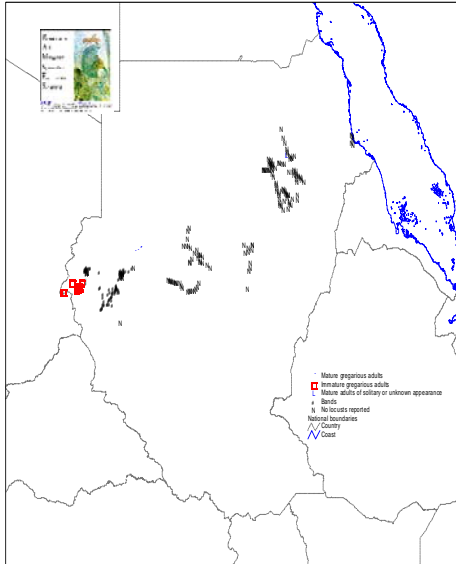
First and second instar hopper bands were detected during surveys carried out in August in 8,028 ha in accessible areas in **Southern Darfur**. Control operations were carried out on 7,628 ha using 390 L of Diazinon 80% ULV, 2,713 L of Malathion 57% (1 L/ha) and 4,105 kg of Dursban 5% dust (1 kg/ha).

No locusts were observed during surveys carried out during the reporting month in **Greater Kordofan, River Nile and White Nile states**. A team from the locust control center at the HQ has been deployed to the **Red Sea state** to join the local team to monitor the locust situation and intercept swarms that may migrate from Eritrea into Sudan. Aerial surveys were conducted in **North Kordofan state** and some parts of **West Kordofan state**; vegetation in all surveyed areas was green and dense but no locusts were observed. Ground survey teams were provided with coordinates of areas with green vegetation and information from satellite images to reinforce the ongoing survey and monitoring operations.

Areas infested/treated in August 31, 2005

Areas reported infested = 15,354 ha
Areas reported treated = 12,289 ha

Schistocerca gregaria Situation / August 2005



Actions taken and resources deployed

- A total of 16 survey, monitoring and control teams have been deployed to various parts of the country - 5 to Northern Darfur, 3 to Western Darfur, 2 each to River Nile state and Southern Darfur and 1 each to Red Sea coast, Northern Kordofan, White Nile state, and Western Kordofan state.
- 1 aircraft was deployed to Northern Kordofan state for survey and control operations
- 11 air strips - 8 in Northern Kordofan, 2 in Red Sea and 1 in Western Kordofan states - have been repaired
- Contract for 13 aircraft has been signed in anticipation of potential swarm invasions originating in western parts of the country.
- Sudan donated 10,000 L of ULV pesticides to Eritrea for locust control operations and the donation will be transported by FAO & WFP.
- Area maps have been distributed to summer breeding areas to reinforce survey and monitoring operations
- PPD/Sudan's strategic stock **646,148 l/kg** of pesticides is enough to treat **553,710 ha**.

Forecast

As a result of favorable ecological conditions, undetected and uncontrolled locusts in greater Darfur could form swarms in mid September and disperse

through greater Kordofan states to River Nile State and summer breeding areas in the Red Sea coast. Swarms may also escape from northern Eritrea and reach Tokar Delta. **It is important that proactive interventions and vigilant survey and monitoring are implemented to the extent possible to avert any major outbreak resulting in and /from the western region.**

DL situation in neighboring countries

Survey and control operations are underway in eastern **Chad**. An immature swarm has formed in eastern Chad. Survey and monitoring have continued in the region where an FAO helicopter has been dispatched. A senior FAO expert has been deployed to assess the locust situation and response capabilities and discuss strategies with national authorities and partners.

Locust operations continued in the northern Red Sea coast in **Eritrea** where hoppers and adults were treated on more than 11,000 ha in the first half of August. Escapee swarms may invade southern Red Sea areas of Sudan in the coming months. Eritrea received donations of 15,000 and 10,000 liters of pesticides from Senegal and Sudan, respectively.

No major locust activities were reported in **Ethiopia** and only residual hoppers were treated on 158 ha in Tigray zone. No locusts were reported in **Somalia** during this dekad. Significant locust activities are not expected in either country in the coming months, but active survey and monitoring are essential.

News Update

AELGA's upgraded webpage, www.aelga.net is now available to the public. The page provides information on our activities and programs. It also includes AELGA's regular reports on DL and other ETOP related activities and many more. For further information, please, contact Yene T. Belayneh, at ybelayneh@ofda.net

U:\...\ybelayneh/sitrep2005/SudanLocustUpdate.
August.31.05